Issue of letters of intent in Andhra Pradesh

2241. SHRI PRABHAKAR RAO KALVALA:
SHRI TALARI MANOHAR:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Andhra Pradesh Industrial Development Corporation have sent sixteen applications for grant of letters of intent; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the applications and the action taken by Government thereon and the reasons for delay in clearing the applications?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) During the years 1986 and 1987 (upto 23.11.87), a total of 19 Industrial Licence applications were received from Messrs. Andhra Pradesh Industrial Development Corporation Ltd./Messrs. Andhra Pradesh Electronics Development Corporation Ltd. Out of these, 5 applications have already been approved and necessary letters of intent issued to the parties. These letters of intent involve the manufacture of mainly electronic equipment/items like Electronic Rural Automatic Exchange/EPABX/ EPAX, Rural Radio Telephone Equipment, 128 Port EPABX, Multiplex Equipment and Light Weight Head Sets. Of the remaining 14 applications, while 10 applications have since been rejected or otherwise disposed of, 4 applications are presently at various stages of processing.

Industrialisation of tribal areas of Madhya Pradesh

2242. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) how many licences have so far been issued for the industrialisation of the 'No Industry Districts' (NIDs) in Bastar and Jhabua of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) what is the progress made for the establishment of these units including the polyester fibre plant unit in Meghnagar of Jhabua district; and

(c) what action is being taken by Government for the speedy industrialisation of these two most backward tribal districts of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c) The number of letters of intent and industrial licences granted during the years 1983 to 1987 (upto October) for setting up industrial units in Jhabua and Bastar districts of Madhya Pradesh are indicated below:—

Year	Letters of Intent		Industrial Licences	
	Jhabua	Bastar	Jhabua	Bastar
1983	1	..	..	..
1984	1	1	1	..
1985	2	1	1	..
1986	2	..	..	..
1987 (upto Oct.)	1	..	..	..

It generally takes about three to four years for an industrial project to fructify. Gestation period, however, varies from project to project. As such, the above letters of intent/industrial licences would be at various stages of implementation.

The two industrial licences granted for Jhabua District during the above said period includes an industrial licence issued to M/s Madhya Pradesh Fibres Ltd. for the establishment of a new unit at Meghnagar for manufacture of polyester staple fibre for a capacity of 15,000 TPA. Another letter of intent was granted to this firm in September, 1985 for expansion of capacity from 15,000 TPA to 30,000 TPA to make the project economically more viable. The unit has not yet commenced production.

Of the two districts of Jhabua and Bastar, Jhabua district has been identified as 'No Industry District'. The State Government of Madhya Pradesh have identified a growth centre at Meghnagar for development of infrastructural facilities. A sum of Rs. 41 lakhs has been released to the State Government as Centre's share in respect of this growth centre. Besides Central assistance for development of infrastructural facilities, entrepreneurs setting up industries in this district are also entitled to Central Investment Subsidy at the highest rate of 25 per cent subject to a maximum of Rs. 25 lakhs, concessional finance facilities etc. The other district, i.e. Bastar, has been identified as Category 'C' backward area and entrepreneurs setting up industries in the district are entitled to Central Investment Subsidy at the rate of 10 per cent subject to a maximum of Rs. 10 lakhs, concessional finance facilities etc.

Shortage of coaltar in the country

2243. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the shortage of coaltar in the country for use in the construction of roads;

(b) if so, what are the country's annual requirements, indigenous production and imports, if any of coaltar;

(c) how Government propose to meet the shortfall so that the construction of black-top roads does not suffer; and

(d) whether the stoppage of coaltar production by a unit in Cochin Oil Refinery is responsible for this shortage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) to (c) There was a marginal shortfall in the production of bitumen during the first half of the current year. However, it is expected that the bitumen requirement for 1987-88, assessed at about 1.450 million tonnes, would be met fully from indigenous production.

(d) The shortage was a cumulative effect of shortfall from several refineries including the Cochin Refinery.

Action plan for the relief of Bhopal gas victims

2244. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether an action plan has now been finalised by the central and Madhya Pradesh Governments for long-term medical relief and economic rehabilitation of the gas victims and for environmental improvement of Bhopal city; and

(b) if so, what are the main features of the plan, its estimated cost and the time schedule for implementation of the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) Government of Madhya Pradesh have already set up medical infrastructure like 125 bedded Jawahar Lal Nehru Hospital, a separate MIC ward in Hamidia Hospital, Bhopal etc. for providing medical relief to